



# NEWS

## United States Consulate General Curacao

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **AMERICAN CONSULATE CONDOLENCE REGISTER OPEN TO PUBLIC**

Tuesday marked the eleventh anniversary of the tragic events of 9/11. It also marked a day when the American Embassy in Cairo and the American Consulate in Benghazi were attacked. The attack in Benghazi resulted in the loss of life, including the life of the U.S. Ambassador John Christopher Stevens.

In memory of the people who lost their lives, the Consulate General of the United States will open a Condolence Book. The Condolence Book will be available for signing at the Consulate General on Friday, September 14 from 9-11 AM and 2-4 PM and on Monday, September 17 from 9-11 AM and 2-4 PM.

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Having lowered our flags to have mast in their honor, the U.S. Consulate General in Curacao mourns the loss of these dedicated public servants and takes this opportunity to share the words of U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton:

Quote: Yesterday, our U.S. diplomatic post in Benghazi, Libya was attacked. Heavily armed militants assaulted the compound and set fire to our buildings. American and Libyan security personnel battled the attackers together. Four Americans were killed. They included Sean Smith, a Foreign Service information management officer, and our Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens. We are still making next of kin notifications for the other two individuals.

This is an attack that should shock the conscience of people of all faiths around the world. We condemn in the strongest terms this senseless act of violence, and we send our prayers to the families, friends, and colleagues of those we've lost.

All over the world, every day, America's diplomats and development experts risk their lives in the service of our country and our values, because they believe that the United States must be a force for peace and progress in the world, that these aspirations are worth striving and sacrificing for. Alongside our men and women in uniform, they represent the best traditions of a bold and generous nation.

....Some have sought to justify this vicious behavior, along with the protest that took place at our Embassy in Cairo yesterday, as a response to inflammatory material posted on the internet. America's commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. But let me be clear – there is no justification for this, none. Violence like this is no way to honor religion or faith. And as long as there are those who would take innocent life in the name of God, the world will never know a true and lasting peace.

It is especially difficult that this happened on September 11<sup>th</sup>. It's an anniversary that means a great deal to all Americans. Every year on that day, we are reminded that our work is not yet finished, that the job of putting an end to violent extremism and building a safe and stable world continues. But September 11<sup>th</sup> means even more than that. It is a day on which we remember thousands of American heroes, the bonds that connect all Americans, wherever we are on this Earth, and the values that see us through every storm. And now it is a day on which we will remember Sean, Chris, and their colleagues.

May God bless them, and may God bless the thousands of Americans working in every corner of the world who make this country the greatest force for peace, prosperity, and progress, and a force that has always stood for human dignity. End quote.

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